

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 059830
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APPROVED BY P - MR. HABIB
NEA - MR. VELIOTES
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S/S:MR. ORTIZ(S/S 7706775)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
INFO WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 059830

NODIS
WH FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3 IMPDET

TAGS: PFOR, SP, IS

SUBJECT: NORMALIZATION OF SPAIN'S RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

1. DURING THE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST, THE QUESTION OF THE NORMALIZATION OF SPANISH RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WAS RAISED BY FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON. ALLON SAID THAT SPAIN, UNDER ARAB PRESSURE, WAS HOLDING BACK ON ITS PROMISE TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AND THAT THEREFORE ISRAEL, NOT BEING WILLING TO ACCEPT THIS OUTCOME OF ARAB BLACKMAIL, WAS ORGANIZING A CAMPAIGN AGAINST SPAIN ON THIS ISSUE. THE SECRETARY SAID WE WOULD SPEAK TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT ON THE MATTER.

2. YOU SHOULD SEEK AN EARLY AND APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY

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TO RAISE THIS QUESTION WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

-- REFER TO EARLIER INDICATIONS THAT RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WOULD BE NORMALIZED AS PART OF THE OVERALL PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING AND RENEWING RELATIONS WITH VARIOUS COUNTRIES;

-- ASK WHAT THE STATUS OF THIS MATTER NOW IS;

-- NOTE THAT A MOVE TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WOULD BE A USEFUL SPANISH CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORTS BY HELPING TO REDUCE ISRAEL'S FEELING OF ISOLATION.

3. WE HAVE NOTED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S OFFER FOR THE SPANISH TO CONVEY TO THE ARABS US IDEAS ON MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE KING'S VISIT TO EGYPT AND JORDAN (MADRID 1771). WHILE WE FEEL IT WOULD NOT BE ADVISABLE FOR US TO SUGGEST A PARTICULAR LINE FOR THE SPANISH TO TAKE WITH THE ARABS, THE EMBASSY SHOULD, TO BE RESPONSIVE, CONVEY THE SAME GENERAL BRIEFING ON THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED VISITS OF THE SECRETARY TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND PRIME MINISTER RABIN TO WASHINGTON THAT WE HAVE GIVEN TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS. WE ARE SENDING BY SEPTELS TALKING POINTS FOR THIS PURPOSE. WE SUGGEST YOU USE THE OCCASION OF PROVIDING THE BRIEFING TO MAKE THE POINTS INDICATED ABOVE ON SPANISH-ISRAELI RELATIONS.
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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